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1. At the end of August Army units stationed in large towns (Prague, Hradec Králové, Budějovice, Plzeň, Brno, etc.) received orders transferring them to country garrisons. The reason given was lack of space for exercises. In Prague itself only the Pohořelec barracks remained occupied, the other units being transferred. For instance, the 2nd Prague Regiment was transferred to the following villages in the area between Karlovy Vary and Mariánské Lázně: Doupov, Toužim, Bečov nad Teplou, Hamerníky, and Kynžvart. There is one battalion in each of these villages.
2. At the beginning of August the Medical Service was transferred from the Vršovice barracks to Košice. SNB squads moved into these evacuated barracks, taking them over with all furnishings. Four emergency squads of the SNB are to be moved to Prague.
3. Towards the end of August it was rumored that the so-called Recreation Center of the Russian Army, actually IVD, would be located in Plzeň at some school. This was to be in reprisal for the expression of pro-American sentiments by the population during the demonstrations of 5-9 May 1948.
4. The real cause for the transfer of the armed forces out of large towns is very probably their unreliability. Officers of higher and lower ranks alike are considered unreliable (for instance, seventeen officers and their families in Chomutov left the country). To get a better grip on the Army, 3,000 Communists are to be placed in key positions in it.
5. The total strength of the SNB in August 1948 was 42,000 men. This number was to be increased to 55,000 within the next two months. Admission to and promotion in the SNB is conditional on the prior approval and recommendation of the Central Committee of the KSČ (Czech Communist Party). Thus it happened that one member of the SNB was promoted to higher rank four times in one day as a result of such a recommendation. Recruiting carried out for the purpose of increasing their strength utterly failed. Only one percent of the required number applied. It was therefore decided to complete requirements of SNB by transferring men from the Industrial Militia. These new forces were to be sent to the western border to release the old guards who were to be withdrawn.

This document is hereby regraded to
CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the
letter of 16 October 1978 from the
Director of Central Intelligence to the
United States.

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6. The strength of the SNB in Prague is 2,000 guards in uniform, 600 agents of the criminal police in civilian clothes, 300 agents of the National Security (Státní Bezpečnost). During the February events and the funeral of President Beneš this strength was increased. The SNB and the Industrial Militia each had about 5,000 men.
7. In Písek (N50/Q69) and the vicinity billets for the armed forces were sought at the beginning of September. The transfer into this area was carried out with such speed that orders were given to move existing barracks from as far away as Moravia instead of erecting wooden barracks on the spot.
8. Mobilization plans are worked out in Podbořany (Podersam, near Žatec/Saaz) in the barracks of the General Staff.
9. Three kilometers from Most (Brüx) there is a little chateau in the woods with a restaurant. In the chateau is the temporary location of the staff which is charged with working out the plans for the entry of the Red Army into Czechoslovakia.
10. After February 4,000 members of the SNB were expelled. Some of these have now been reinstated, however.
11. The building of concrete runways at Kbely airfield has started, to enable heavy aircraft to land there.
12. The Guard of Hradčany Castle has been replaced by SNB commanded by Major Hoffman.
13. There is a Russian, a member of the MVD, who has an office in Prague, on Masarykovo nábřeží, next to the Bellevue Coffee House. This liaison officer issues orders to the Central Committee of the KSC, the respective regional headquarters of the State Police, and the various agents of the MVD who have civilian appointments in all the larger towns.

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